

In the Claims:

Please AMEND the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A slotted expandable centraliser.
2. (Original) A centraliser as claimed in claim 1, having a body with a bore to accept a tubular, and being adapted to expand radially from a non-expanded configuration to an expanded configuration.
3. (Original) A centraliser as claimed in claim 2, wherein the slots are longitudinal in the non-expanded configuration and diamond-shaped in the expanded configuration.
4. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in claim 2 ~~or claim 3~~, being adapted to receive an expandable tubular and adapted to deform radially with the expandable tubular upon expansion of the tubular.
5. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in ~~any of claims 2 to 4~~ claim 2, wherein the centraliser has at least one blade that projects radially outward of the body in the non-expanded configuration.
6. (Original) A centraliser as claimed in claim 5, wherein the at least one blade projects radially outward of the body in the expanded configuration.
7. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in claim 5 ~~or claim 6~~, wherein the at least one blade is adapted to change configuration during expansion of the centraliser.
8. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in claim 5 ~~or claim 6~~, wherein the at least one blade is adapted to retain its configuration during expansion of the centraliser.
9. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in ~~any of claims 5 to 8~~ claim 5, wherein the at least one blade has the same thickness as the body.

10. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, having slotted portions circumferentially adjacent to non-slotted portions.

11. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in claim 10 ~~when dependent on any of claims 5 to 9~~, the centralizer having a body with a bore to accept a tubular, and being adapted to expand radially from a non-expanded configuration to an expanded configuration, and at least one blade that projects radially outward of the body in the non-expanded configuration, wherein the at least one blade is located in a non-slotted portion.

12. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, wherein the slots are uniformly distributed over the centraliser.

13. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the slots are arranged in longitudinally aligned rows with slots in adjacent rows being axially offset with respect to one another so that the ends of circumferentially adjacent slots overlap.

14. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the slots are of uniform dimension.

15. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, being adapted to deform plastically.

16. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, being adapted to deform elastically.

17. (Currently Amended) A centraliser as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, being a casing centraliser.

18. (Original) A centraliser assembly comprising a slotted expandable centraliser which has a body with a bore to accept a tubular, and is radially expandable from a non-expanded configuration to an expanded configuration; and an expandable tubular, located in the bore of the centraliser.

19. (Original) An assembly as claimed in claim 18, wherein the centraliser is a casing centraliser.

20. (Currently Amended) An assembly as claimed in claim 18 ~~or 19~~, wherein the tubular comprises casing, liner or a screen.